

## OAKS UNDER ARREST

Man Charged with Firing the Fatal Shot in Thursday's Riot

Declares He Is Innocent and That No Shot Was Fired from the Train  
—The Inquest.

J. D. Oaks, special constable for the Big Four railroad, and the man who, it is said, killed James Pitts, was locked up yesterday afternoon on the charge of murder. He denies vigorously the charge, and does not appear at all worried over his position. He was located yesterday morning at Brightwood by detective Jerre Kinney, who reported the matter to Superintendent Colbert. Kinney, McGuff and Dougherty were detailed on the case. The detectives went to Brightwood yesterday afternoon, where they found officers Grady and Jeffries, of the Big Four, in charge of the shops. When asked where Oaks could be found, detective Jeffries replied that he had come into the city to consult with attorney Elliott. The city detectives returned to town, but failed to find Oaks at the law office. Later they learned that after they had left Brightwood the railroad detectives hurried into the city, and finding Oaks hustled him over to police headquarters. The police officers are inclined to believe that the railroad men were bent on keeping Oaks out of the way until they found he was a threat to their position. It is stated that detective Jeffries, when approached at Brightwood, politely asked the officers if they could produce a warrant for the arrest of Oaks.

The prisoner spent an hour in the corridor of the station before he communicated with the outside world, but at 4 o'clock sent a message to attorney John Dunne, who answered the call immediately. Oaks held a short conversation with the attorney and returned to his cell. He has little to say, and refuses to answer questions to the statement made to the coroner by Superintendent Riley. Like his chief, Oaks denies that there was any firing done from the car, and stoutly asserts that he fired no shots. He said to a Journal reporter: "I had instructions from the superintendent to allow my men to do nothing that would afterwards be brought against me. They were told not to shoot, and when the crowd began throwing rocks at the car were ordered to drop below the windows. I cannot say whether there were shots fired from the crowd or not. I heard the sharp crash of missiles against the car and several rocks came through the windows. When the crowd began to attack us I dropped to the floor and lay there until we pulled into the east end of the yards. At the moment they say Pitts was shot I was crouching below the window endeavoring to escape the flying rocks or shots. I did not present myself at the door or window during the whole time. I am not uneasy about the final outcome of this case. All that worries me now is that I am compelled to stay in this place. I think if the Board of Health would come around here they might find something to do after."

Oaks is a carpenter by trade, but has been in the employ of the Big Four since the strike began, a month ago. He resides on Dillon street. He stated that he was not making an effort to elude arrest, but was simply watching the company's property at Brightwood, and intended giving himself up if the coroner, in his verdict, charged the death of Pitts to him.

## CORONER'S INQUIRY.

Testimony Taken Yesterday in Regard to the Killing of Pitts.  
Coroner Beck yesterday took the testimony of Superintendent Riley and yardmaster Shaw in his investigation into the shooting of Pitts. Riley testified that when the train started out from the shops he told the engineer to cross the Washington-street crossing as fast as he could in conformance with the law regulating speed at crossings. He said there were no shots fired from the train, but that after it passed Washington street it was bombarded with rocks and bullets.

Shaw said he was standing at the front end of the car when he saw the train approaching the Washington-street crossing and he tried to step out upon the front platform to motion the engineer to increase the speed of the train. He found the train was not moving, and he saw that the train was stopped. He saw that the train was stopped, and he saw that the train was stopped. He saw that the train was stopped, and he saw that the train was stopped.

Oaks' Richmond Record.

RICHMOND, Ind., Oct. 7.—John D. Oaks, of Indianapolis, who is accused of shooting J. B. Pitts, was a former resident of this city, and has a very unenviable reputation. He came here soon after the war from Georgia, and frequently boasted that he was in the regular army. He was a carpenter by trade, and was the president of the first Carpenters' Union ever organized in this city. He was of a quarrelsome, hot-headed disposition and was frequently in the Police Court. He married a daughter of Davis Cox, of this city, by whom he had three children, afterwards deserting her. He afterward married a Mrs. Archibald, of this city, whom he also deserted. She still resides here. After leaving her Oaks lived for a while at New Castle, going from there to Indianapolis. He was always regarded as a tough citizen.

Order Should Be Maintained.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal.

On reading of the rioting and shooting in the Big Four yards at Indianapolis, and being one of the passengers on the west-bound train, the thought occurs quite forcibly to me that the public, particularly the traveling public, when they are non-residents of your city, have some rights which the proper city authorities should uphold.

Setting entirely aside the question of whether the railroad company or the strikers are at fault, or which is being wronged by the other, the fact remains that innocent and helpless women and children are compelled to pass through rioting crowds like that of Thursday evening, where they are liable to be wounded or killed by stray stones or shots, and all this, bear in mind, from crowds that should not be allowed to congregate, and from men that should not be allowed to carry revolvers. Our train was stopped by the noise of shooting and breaking glass, and looking out I, as well as dozens of others, saw men shooting and throwing stones into the car, not boys but full grown men, who hid the stone under their coats until a good opportunity to throw the effective missile was afforded. One man, who was not at the Washington-street crossing and could not have been behind the rear end of our train, fired deliberately into that train three times as it passed, and put his hands in his pockets and walked over to the car ditch. From his looks any one would judge that he would not work over two days in a week if he could. A man who would do that could not be on the right side on any question, never was right, was born wrong and has no rights, except, perhaps, the right to be shot on sight by the first order-loving man that meets him. If strikers want any sympathy from the public they should lend their aid to hurry such fellows to the penitentiary, where they belong. On our train women and children in their terror crouched down in the aisles, behind and under seats, and some left the train. No one could tell but that shots would follow that car while it was passing us, or that our train would not meet the same reception at the crossing. Before the rights of the Big Four railroad, before the rights of a half dozen boiler makers, don't want to work, comes the right of the traveling public to protection and the right of the community in general to have law and order established and maintained. Crowds had been gathered at these points all day; shooting and disorder had occurred the evening before. It was almost certain that the disorder would be greater later evening, as it is certain that it will be greater this evening unless these crowds are dispersed. Why were they not dispersed? If the city authorities are too busy with other matters to attend to this plain duty, how about the sheriff or the State? The citizens of your city are more interested than any others. If the Big Four shops are burned, as was talked of yesterday, who will have to pay the bill? Marion county. Other citizens of the State are

endangered in their lives and property. Some authority, the State if no other, owes it to them that they be protected while forced to be in your city.

Restore order; then let the parties to this private dispute settle their differences, through the courts if necessary. Why should they be allowed to drag the public into their fight simply because one happens to be a railroad company and the other a boiler maker? Why not settle it the same way they would if both parties were boiler makers or both parties were railroad companies. The public have no interest in this except that order be maintained. Crawfordville, Oct. 6.

## SLASHED HIM WITH A RAZOR.

Bloody Cutting Affray Growing Out of a Saloon Brawl.

Last night, about 7 o'clock, Bill Williams, a notorious Malott-avenue "tough," who has been employed at the livery stable opposite the Empire Theater, was nearly successful in an effort to kill Al Long, near a saloon at the corner of Malott avenue and Yandes street, at which place they had quarreled over a game of pool. Long knocked Williams down twice and ended him until he fell "enough." Williams then followed Long into the street where Long repeated the operation with similar results. Williams then said that he would kill Long before morning and borrowed a razor soon afterwards from Bill Howard, a porter at Miller's saloon.

By this time Long had gotten as far as the railroad flag station, when he found Williams was still after him. He was warned by some standers-by of Williams' intention to kill him, and at once started to run, but Williams overtook him a short distance from the saloon, and the two clinched and fell to the ground. In the scuffle Williams cut two arteries on Long's left wrist, and inflicted a mean wound, six inches in length, along his left side, which came near entering his entrails. He was taken immediately to Dr. Finley's office, near by where his wounds were dressed. He is not fatally injured. The police were at once informed, but have not yet captured Williams. Long is twenty-four years of age, married, and resides at 230 North Noble street.

## FREE BEER AND THE KNIFE.

Where the Primary Responsibility for the Manly Stabbing Lies.

If the trial of young Nourse for assault and battery with intent to kill Dennis Manley were to take place before the city election, it would undoubtedly have a great influence on the result, as it would show in the true light the methods of the Democratic city committee to secure votes. The stabbing occurred during a quarrel as to where a keg of beer should be taken. The grand jury yesterday indicted Nourse for the stabbing, but the case will not come up for trial before the election. If it did there would be some testimony in it that would not be reliable credit upon some members of the Democratic committee. It is now known as a positive fact that a rumor which was current at the time of the stabbing is correct. The Democratic committee had given the beer as an order on the brewery syndicate for two kegs of beer; one of them had been secured and drunk, the other was to be taken as to where the second should be taken that Manley received his wound.

## CITY NEWS NOTES.

William Tallentire, of the fire department headquarters, is lying at his home seriously ill with typhoid fever.

Marriage licenses were issued yesterday to Simon Silberstein and Dora Abrams; Ornel H. Rieky and Clara Greenway.

Governor Matthews went to Greensburg yesterday to spend Sunday with his grandson, Master Claude Matthews Ewing. A serious illness from which the little fellow is suffering has occasion much uneasiness on the part of the Governor.

Rev. Frank O. Ballard will preach his second sermon to young men and young women to-night at the Memorial Presbyterian church, corner of Christian and Washington streets. The subject, "Six Causes of Failure in Life," is one that will interest the old as well as the young.

Mr. L. V. Boyle, the veteran lumber dealer of this city, returned from a fishing excursion to Three Lakes, Wisconsin, a few days since, where he and his son, who resides in Chicago, enjoyed some sport that was worth having. In three days they caught forty-eight pike, the smallest weighing three and a half pounds; twenty-seven pickerel, the largest weighing eleven pounds. Mr. Boyle captured two muskallonge weighing, respectively, twenty-two and twenty-four pounds. It took him four hours to bring in the twenty-four pounder.

For the Conscience Fund.  
The following letter was received by State Treasurer Gall yesterday. The receipt of the money produced quite a shock among the employees of the office, and it will be framed and registered as one of the equipments of the office. The letter was dated Washington, D. C., and read:

Sir—Many years ago the State of Indiana paid me a small sum of money to which I am not entitled—though received by me at the time in good faith. I have directed to the Treasurer of the State to return to you the amount, and I herewith inclose you \$15 in full of the amount. This is just to the State and satisfies my conscience. Yours respectfully,  
CONSCIENCE.

Treasurer Gall is unaware of the author's identity, but the fact that three crisp five-dollar bills fell from the envelope when opened gave a substantial sincerity to the writer's remarks. It is not believed that any member of the last Legislature is responsible for the return of the money or that Green Smith has suffered a relapse of conscience.

## Collegiate Alumni.

The annual meeting of the Indiana branch of the Association of College Alumni was held with Mrs. W. J. Hesseman, at the corner of Central avenue and Twenty-sixth street, yesterday. The members assembled at 10 o'clock, when the reports of the committees on university extension, memorials to the Legislature, child study, woman's wages and nominations were made, and this was followed by general business.

Luncheon was served, and in the afternoon the annual election of officers was held. A convention on "The Educational Work of Women as shown at the Columbian Exposition" was led by Mrs. May Wright Sewall.

## Relief for Storm Sufferers.

The Board of Trade's relief committee held a meeting yesterday forenoon to consider the needs of the sufferers by the recent floods and cyclone in Louisiana and as a result of the meeting the president of the board sent the following dispatch to John M. Barker, Jr., president of the New Orleans Board of Trade.

"Draw on Indianapolis Board of Trade for \$500 in aid of flood sufferers in your State. By order of relief committee,  
"JAMES A. WILDMAN,  
President Indianapolis Board of Trade."

Asks for \$10,000.  
Georgiana Carter yesterday filed suit against Lewis Holloway, asking judgment in damages for the sum of \$10,000. The suit is based upon a patent saw mill, which Mrs. Carter alleges was invented by her husband and by him sold to Holloway. She alleges that the ownership of the patent was obtained by fraud and artifice, charging that Holloway purchased it from her husband while he was debilitated by a count of intoxicating drinks. She claims ownership as a part of her deceased husband's estate.

The Hunslop Hat.  
In Derby, Soft and Silk, are the best hats made. Seaton, the hatter, sells them, at 27 North Pennsylvania street.

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## GREEN SMITH QUILTS

Admits that He Played the Part of Usurper in 1887,

And that the Democratic Position Was Wrong—Suit of Robertson Compromised.

In Room 1 of the Superior Court, yesterday afternoon, the case of Robert S. Robertson vs. Alonzo G. Smith was dismissed at the defendant's cost. The suit has been pending in the courts since early in the year 1887, and was the outgrowth of a bit of Democratic infamy, which has cast a stigma upon the fair name of the State from which it will not recover for years to come. The disgraceful scenes which were enacted by a Democratic majority in the State Senate, though occurring six years ago, are still well remembered, not only by residents of the State but the reading public over the country at large.

In 1886 Gen. M. D. Manson, who was then Lieutenant Governor of the State, resigned his position to accept a federal appointment. Upon his resignation, the question as to how his successor should be chosen very naturally suggested itself. The Journal announced at the time that the vacancy should be filled by election and also announced that the Republicans would nominate a candidate for the office. Governor Gray sought the opinion of Attorney-general Hord, who was a Democrat, and the Attorney-general gave his opinion in accordance with the position taken by the Journal, that the vacancy should be filled by election by the people. In pursuance of this opinion, which was accepted as the law by both parties, candidates were nominated by each. Judge Nelson, of Logansport, was nominated by the Democrats, and Robertson of Fort Tiesden, nominated by the Republicans. In the election the Republicans were successful.

In the meantime the Republicans had secured Green Smith of the House of Representatives, and the Democrats held the power in the Senate. When the Legislature convened Green Smith, who was a hold-over Senator, was chosen as President pro tem. The Democratic Senate refused to acknowledge the legality of Robertson's election, and Green Smith passed an act, which was unanimously carried by himself, declaring that Robertson was not entitled to the office to which he had been elected by the people. It was very natural that should pass this law as its effect was to leave him the President of the Senate. The Democratic majority now refused to accept the opinion of Attorney-general Hord, after they had been defeated at the polls, and proceeded to carry things in the Senate with a high hand, by force of arms. When Robertson appeared in the Senate to demand his rights and take the seat to which he was elected, Green Smith ordered the Sergeant-at-Arms to eject him by force. Robertson's outraged sense of honor and respect and Robertson was thrown bodily from the Senate chamber and Green Smith retained his seat as President of the Senate, his only right being the superior slugging abilities of the Democratic majority. Every day during the entire sixty-days of the session the Republicans demanded their rights in the Senate and that the voice of the people as expressed at the polls be respected, and that Robertson be given his seat, and every day they were assaulted by the Democratic majority and forcibly ejected from the chamber. By this means Green Smith succeeded in retaining the seat during the session, which passed two laws, one of which was the general appropriation bill.

The President of the Senate is entitled to \$3,000 a year as compensation, but a President pro tem, is entitled to no more than the regular pay of a member of the Senate. The last warrant of the assistant secretary of the Senate for Green Smith's salary was not paid by the Auditor of State, on the grounds that he had already overdrawn his salary in having drawn the salary of the Lieutenant Governor, to which he was not entitled.

Immediately after the adjournment of the Legislature Robertson filed the suit which was dismissed yesterday at Green Smith's cost. In three days he recovered the salary which was due Robertson for the term as Lieutenant Governor but which had been wrongfully drawn by Green Smith. The suit has since drawn along in the courts without anything having been done in it until yesterday. Green Smith agreed to confess judgment for \$300 and the case was closed, as this was accepted by Robertson's attorneys. The confession of judgment by the present Attorney-general is an admission that he was wrong and violator of the law in illegally holding the office against Robertson by force. It is in accordance with the opinion of the then Democratic Attorney-general as one of the worst stooping to the most infamous practice to thwart the will of the people.

BIG FOUR ROUTE.  
\$3.30—Cincinnati and Return—\$3.30.

On account of National Encampment Union Veterans Legion, this company will sell, for all trains of Oct. 10 and 11, at above rate, tickets good to return until the 14th, inclusive. Cincinnati trains leave Indianapolis at 2:45 A. M., 4:00 P. M., 6:20 P. M. and 11:30 P. M. For tickets and full information call at the four offices, No. 1 East Washington street, 38 Jackson Place and Union Station.

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